



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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### DEQ Nonpoint Source Management Plan receives EPA approval

BATON ROUGE – The Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 has approved DEQ's Five year Nonpoint Source Management Plan. The plan identifies water goals and annual milestones to fully or partially restore 40 nonpoint source impaired water bodies by October 2016. The impaired water bodies would be restored for their designated uses for contact recreation and fish and wildlife propagation. The balanced approach to cleaning up the more than 25 percent of the state's impaired water bodies includes targeted monitoring, watershed planning and statewide initiatives.

Governor Jindal submitted the NPS Source Management Plan for approval in early October as required by the Clean Water Act and EPA responded that they appreciated the combined efforts of DEQ and the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry in preparing the plan that is consistent with the requirements.

Ron Curry, EPA Region 6 Administrator, wrote "The commitments and goals outlined in this plan will not easily be implemented, but I am confident the path to restoring water quality will be successful with the dedication and partnership of federal, state and local governments."

"DEQ's commitment to cleaning up the state waters is reflected in the hard work that went into this plan," said DEQ Secretary Peggy Hatch. "The partnership between our staff and those of the LDAF, the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Unit, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources and many other federal and state agencies and conversationalists, will provide an immense benefit to the quality of life for the citizens of Louisiana."

For more information in the 2012 Nonpoint source Management Plan, the nonpoint source program and water quality information, please go to <http://nonpoint.deq.louisiana.gov/wqa/default.htm>.